

## CENTRAL COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.

THE CLOSE OF A SESSION SO PROSPEROUS AS  
TO JUSTIFY THE FORWARD MOVE-  
MENT PROPOSED.

A New Building to Grace the Splendid Campus and  
to Increase the Facilities of an Institution Which  
Is Destined to Express Missouri Metho-  
dism's Estimate of its Women.

When the old Masonic College suc-  
cumbed to misfortune in the early  
sixties, the buildings became barracks,  
and the campus a battlefield, where  
heroes surrendered all for their  
country. And, after the war, when  
desolation and destruction, told only  
of blighted hopes and ruined pros-  
pects, the Masons of Missouri gave  
the buildings and grounds,—made  
sacred because of memories dear to  
North and South,—to the Methodist  
Church, to be used as a college for  
the higher education of women. The  
history of this institution from its  
beginning is well known. Despite  
the fears of friends regarding the suc-  
cess of the undertaking, notwithstand-  
ing the financial pressure which the  
reconstruction period brought, year  
by year Central College has moved to  
the front—to her rightful place as first  
in the church, until today she is the  
pride of Missouri Methodists and a  
monument to the intelligence and  
generosity of the church. The past  
history of this institution is but the  
earnest of her success in the future.

In fact, Missouri Methodism stands  
pledged to Central College in a peculiar  
way. This institution has been for-  
mally chosen by the constitutional  
authority of this church as one of the  
avenues of church activity, like mis-  
sions and church extension. The  
church has made formal declaration in  
favor of the higher education of  
women and has made formal choice of  
Central College as the instrument  
through which it means to work out  
its ideals. The failure of Central  
College to accomplish its high mission  
would imply the failure of Methodism.  
It is this intimate relation between  
the school and a great denomination  
of Christians that has given confi-  
dence to the expectation of this com-  
munity that Central College is des-  
tined to grow up in our midst into  
one of the great schools for women in  
America. The opportunity thus  
afforded to Lexington of becoming the  
seat of a future great endowed school  
should not be neglected. The spirit  
of improvement so notable in Lexing-  
ton during the past two or three  
years cannot fail to be assuring to the  
men of means who will be expected  
to endow and enrich the college.

### NEW BUILDINGS.

New buildings, so long hoped for,  
are to be a reality, and during the  
summer months a splendid edifice  
will be erected on the campus and  
the present house thoroughly renova-  
ted. Increased room, more perfect  
equipment and enlarged facilities for  
work, will enable the president and  
his faculty to maintain the highest  
standard of excellence in the college  
course, and to give to the church and  
state, as a return for their invest-  
ment women with the strength of  
fully developed faculties and the  
highest literary culture—all consec-  
rated to the "better things" of life.

For several years Central College  
has been creating a building fund.  
Two recent gifts, one of \$8,000 and  
one of \$5,000, have raised the fund  
to about \$25,000. The board believes  
it may now safely enter upon a plan  
of expansion long contemplated.  
The new building will be to the west  
of the present College building and  
will contain a chapel capable of seat-  
ing about six hundred, recitation  
rooms for vocal and instrumental  
music instruction, and halls for  
literary societies, college clubs and  
gymnasium. The conversion of  
quarters vacated in the main build-  
ing will increase the dormitory  
capacity of the College Home more  
than one third. A large pipe organ  
will be built in the chapel.

It is no wonder then, that the  
commencement week of 1905 comes  
as a season of rejoicing to Central  
and its friends. With the conscious-  
ness of a year well spent, and visions  
of a bright and prosperous future,  
all were indeed prepared to enjoy  
"The Closing Recital by the Class of  
Expression" which was given on Sat-  
urday evening.

CLOSING RECITAL BY SCHOOL OF  
EXPRESSION.

The class of students in Expression  
at Central, has long enjoyed a  
reputation for excellence, and their

entertainments are always well  
attended.

On Saturday evening the chapel  
was filled with attentive friends,  
enthusiastic in their appreciation of  
the merits of the recital, and eager to  
add their congratulations on the  
success of the last of a series of  
splendid programs given by this class  
at the college. The department is  
under the direction of Miss Perle  
Shale, whose ability as a teacher in  
physical culture and expression is  
evidenced by the work of her pupils.  
Careful training, and conscientious  
study have brought the talents of the  
young ladies to such a degree of  
perfection, that all were impressed  
with Gladstone's wisdom in declaring  
that "time and money spent in train-  
ing the voice and the body, is an  
investment that pays a larger interest  
than any other." In making special  
mention of the different numbers on  
the program, his only just to pro-  
nounce each one excellent.

To Miss Eugenia Kirk was assigned  
the difficult task of beginning the  
exercises,—yet so well did she acquit

selection the impersonation was so  
clever that the characters of Ingomar  
and his fair captive were kept clearly  
before the listeners.

The monologue by Miss Grace Lewis  
was a complete success, and showed  
how perfectly she could adapt voice  
and feeling to any style of reading.

After an informal reception in the  
college parlors the guests departed,  
congratulating themselves that by  
braving threatening clouds, they had  
been permitted to enjoy a most deli-  
cious evening.

### COMMENCEMENT SUNDAY.

Sunday, May 28th, was Commence-  
ment Sunday for Central College.  
The large auditorium of the Methodist  
church was filled by an eager,  
attentive congregation. The beauti-  
ful decorations of white and green,  
senior colors, were especially appro-  
priate. The organ prelude by Mr.  
Conrad, was a fit introduction to the  
services of the hour, and as the  
inspiring melodies came from the  
instrument, all felt impelled to the  
reverence due the place of worship.

Apart from the usual custom, con-  
gregational singing, led by the  
college choir, was had. The only  
special number was a solo of  
wonderful sweetness, by Miss Edna  
Grinstead.

The sermon to the senior class was  
delivered by Dr. T. E. Sharpe, of St.  
Louis. He took his text from Hosea,  
14:5. "I will be as the dew unto  
Israel, he shall grow as the lily, and  
cast forth his roots as Lebanon." The  
discourse was splendid,—practical  
yet eloquent, clothed in simplest  
language, yet containing deep  
thought that could only come from

as a benediction upon the class,  
invoking God's blessing upon them  
that they begin their new life with  
supreme desire to be right with God  
—fruitful in effort and fixed in pur-  
pose. Then indeed they would be  
honored by God and a blessing to  
the world.

At the evening service, Miss Edna  
Grinstead sang "The Plains of Peace."  
Every note and every syllable of this  
beautiful composition is dear to  
lovers of sacred song, and as sung by  
Miss Grinstead was full of inspiration  
and comfort for her audience.

Dr. Sharpe took the Anointing at  
Bethany as his text. His theme  
was following the dictation of love,  
and he urged that giving, doing and  
serving be an expression of love, not  
simply a prompting of duty.

In a very practical way the speaker  
drew lessons from the sacred narra-  
tive, suggesting that as Christ is in-  
carnated in His institution, His  
church, Christian colleges and chari-  
table organizations, gifts poured on  
them as an expression of love, would  
be just as pleasing to Him, as the  
gift of the disciple of old.

The benediction pronounced, the  
Sunday services came to a close—ser-  
vices filled with wise counsels and  
tender appeals, which will, no doubt,  
bear a rich harvest in the young lives  
to whom they were addressed.

### CLASS DAY AT CENTRAL.

When a class of eighteen bright  
girls stand on the threshold of their  
Alma Mater, and peer, half in fear,  
and with more than half delight into  
the unknown future,—ere they go  
out to meet the unbounded prospect  
which hope has pictured so bright

During the college course, a long  
line of grim tyrants, Caesar, Cicero,  
Virgil, Horace, Livy and Ovid had  
made life miserable for these girls,  
and at the last Quiltilian, the most  
terrible of all; had tortured them by  
day and haunted them by night; so  
as an act of mercy to those who may  
follow, the class of '05 decided to  
burn old Quiltilian in effigy. Not  
in a spirit of revenge was this done,  
but as an act of mercy to succeeding  
classes. While the flames rose high-  
er a dismal dirge was chanted and  
the girls left the smoking ruins with  
the consciousness of having done their  
duty to all succeeding classes.

While planting the ivy near the  
college wall, Miss Christine Lewis  
read Mrs. Heman's charming little  
"Ivy Song," after which the Senior  
cap and gown were committed to the  
Juniors with the injunction that they  
wear them with the dignity becoming  
the successors of the illustrious class  
of '05.

In after years, when tender mem-  
ories of Central shall come crowding  
in upon these lives which will have  
been devoted to new purposes and  
filled with new energies, this "Class  
Day" will stand out—a charming  
picture among the many College  
views on memory's walls.

### ART RECEPTION.

One of the treats which Central's  
commencement week brought, was  
the Art Reception, held in the  
college studio Monday afternoon.

Socially, it was a very pleasant  
affair, and while characterized by the  
informality which makes such  
occasions delightful, yet careful  
attention to detail was manifest on

Here roses, chrysanthemums, grapes,  
fruits, and flowers vied with nature  
in delicacy of coloring and beauty of  
design.

A specially attractive feature of  
the display was the collection of  
china. The great number of pieces,  
and the taste and skill in decoration  
plainly told how strongly this work  
appeals to the feminine heart. Quiet  
elegance was shown in the table  
china, and on most of this the con-  
ventional design was used; while on  
the ornamental pieces, the naturalis-  
tic design, exquisite in coloring, and  
perfect in outline was seen.

But space forbids detailed notice  
of the skilled work in clay modelling,  
of the marvellous neatness with which  
the baskets were made, or of the  
accuracy with which copies of the  
works of great masters were repro-  
duced. The whole collection was  
excellent—the reception a success.  
The Art department is in charge of  
Miss Emily Lambert, who has added  
to her natural gift the advantages of  
study in our great art centers.  
Enthusiastic in undertaking, pro-  
gressive in study, she carries into her  
work that tireless energies that bring  
inspiration to the student. As an  
instructor and artist she will continue  
to attract to the College, young  
women, ambitious to cultivate to the  
utmost, their love for the ideal in  
nature and art.

### GRAND CONCERT AT CENTRAL.

On Monday evening, the friends of  
the music class of the college who  
have watched the progress of the  
young ladies with ever increasing  
interest, and friends of the institu-  
tion, who always delight in the  
triumphs of Central's daughters,  
gathered in the music hall for the  
grand concert. The entertainment  
is always anticipated with much  
pleasure, as the climax of the brilliant  
recitals given during the year. It  
was pronounced by musical critics, a  
fitting close of the music department  
—an honor to Central and her faculty.

Mr. Conrad, the director in the  
school of music, has been identified  
with Central for several years. As a  
musician he stands pre-eminent, and  
by his unfailing courtesy, his unswerving  
devotion to duty, intense interest  
in the advancement of those commit-  
ted to his care, he has won the praises  
and esteem of his pupils, and the  
commendation of the community in  
which he labors.

Mrs. Alfred Franklin Smith, the  
teacher in voice culture, with her  
splendid talent, highly cultivated,  
has a place of her own in musical  
circles. As a teacher she has no  
superior and her large, well trained  
class is the best possible testimonial  
to her worth.

The following program speaks for  
itself:

1. Sonata Pathétique (first movement).....  
Miss Beas Reynolds.
  2. Valse Caprice.....  
Miss Edna Grinstead.
  3. Two Songs.....  
a. "O Night, Mysterious Goddess".....  
b. "Wie berührt mich Wundersam".....  
Miss Leona Wahrenbrock.
  4. Capriccio Brillante.....  
Miss Florida Stier.
  5. Vocal—Serenade a Juanita.....  
Miss Iva Lela Nelson.
  6. Scherzo—E Minor.....  
Miss Lottie Hines.
  7. Valse Impromptu.....  
Miss Eva Tisdale.
  8. Recitation and Aria (Creation).....  
a. And God Said Let the Earth  
b. With Verdure Clad.  
Miss Anna Nilsson.
  9. Rondo from C major Concerto.....  
Miss Jo Hineslev.
  10. Piano Solo.....  
a. Papillon d' Amor.....  
b. Etude G Flat.....  
Miss Lela Tucker.
  11. Vocal—Summer.....  
Miss Edna Grinstead.
  12. Concerto—A minor (first).....  
Miss Addie Wynne.
- Orchestral parts played on a second piano by Miss B.

The piano solo by Miss B.  
nolds was rendered with  
precision. Her time was per-  
fect. Her expression good. Her eff-  
ort well received. An equally suc-  
cessful contestant for the plaudits of  
hearers was Miss White Lockhart.  
she showed the earnest study  
has characterized her musical

The sweeteners of Miss Wahren-  
brock's voice secure at once the attentive  
audience. This the only "Vocal"  
graduate of 1905, is a fine illustra-  
tion of trained talent and earnest  
effort, and worthy of the honor her  
Alma Mater will bestow. Following  
Miss Wahrenbrock, came one of Lex-  
ington's gifted girls, Miss Florida  
Stier. She has so conscientiously  
cultivated her genius, that a diploma  
is a fitting compliment to her work.  
Her beautiful selection from  
Mendelssohn was admirably rendered.  
From the time of her first appear-  
ance before a Lexington audience, in  
the role of a little gypsy girl, her  
jingling tambourine keeping time  
with her music, Miss Lela Nelson has



ALFRED F. SMITH, A. B., President.



MRS. ALFRED FRANKLIN SMITH, Director of Voice Culture.

herself that her right to this place of  
distinction was fully sustained.

The second number, "Noli's  
Journey," a selection full of pathos,  
imitative in its portrayal of child-  
hood's griefs, was beautifully given  
by Miss Beulah Rhoades.

Kate Douglas Wiggin is a favorite,  
but when her works fall into the  
hands of a reader like Miss Roxie  
James, they are sure to be well  
received. Miss James has developed  
talent that entitles her to a high  
place in a class of exceptional merit.  
"Lovey Mary" has hosts of friends,  
too, and when Miss Agnes Scallig  
presents her to an audience, added  
charms are seen, new interest is given  
and she is sure to be enthusiastically  
received.

The last four numbers were given  
by the graduates in Expression—  
students worthy, indeed, to wear the  
honors of the class '05.

Miss Georgia Stewart gave "Execu-  
tion of Sydney Carton." Dickens  
never grows old—and if as some think  
enjoyment of his writings is a matter  
of education—such readers as Miss  
Stewart can do very much towards  
cultivating a taste for good literature  
in her hearers.

But any at rate after the dark picture  
from the "Tale of Two Cities" "Judy  
O'Shea's description of the play of  
Hamlet was refreshing. Miss Men-  
dham's Irish brogue is perfect, her  
sense of humor inimitable and her  
reading left a very happy impres-  
sion.

Perhaps the heaviest number given  
was "Ingomar, the Barbarian,"  
by Miss Christine Lewis. Miss Lewis  
has often delighted Lexington audi-  
ences, and on this occasion added new  
laurels to those already won. In her

earnest study of the truth.

He began by congratulating the  
graduate upon reaching the goal of  
their ambition, after years of study,  
but especially did he congratulate  
them upon having received a Christian  
education, one in which heart, as well  
as mind was cultured, from which  
God was not left out.

He reminded them that they were  
on the threshold of a new life, and  
that the college, their friends, and  
God wanted it to be the best life,  
while the world needed the best life.

Interpreting the figurative language  
of the text, to obtain the truth which  
it taught—he called attention to the  
threefold promise it contained—the  
beauty, the growth and the stability  
of Christian character. Very beauti-  
fully did he impress each of these  
truths upon his hearers.

He declared that it was only those  
who are right with God and right  
with man—those who are persistent  
in purpose, intense in desire—upon  
whose heart God's grace has fallen  
like the dew upon thirsty ground,  
that can lead the beautiful life which  
he spoke of.

The lily grows by perfect adjust-  
ment to its surroundings—by being  
what God wants it to be—so  
to lead the ever enlarging, devel-  
oping life that God wants, we  
yield to him, use the provisions of  
His bounty, and serve Him as He  
wills. Dr. Sharpe recalled the fact  
that the cedars of Lebanon were used  
in building the great temple, so char-  
acters that have stood the test of  
temptation and trial, that are built  
after God's plan, can go out and bless  
and honor God.

The speaker's closing words were

and beautiful, it is well that they  
gather once again, in the old chapel,  
on the beautiful campus, in the  
places dear because of the memories  
clustering about them, and celebrate  
the end of student life.

On Monday, the 29th, the Seniors  
of Central College held their "Class  
Day" exercises. At the dinner hour,  
a table, set apart for their use, was  
placed in the center of the large  
dining hall. White and green ribbons  
were drawn from the chandelier to  
each corner, and the class flowers,  
white carnations and ferns, used as  
decorations. When the white robed,  
bright faced girls entered, the picture  
was complete. A happy feature of  
the dinner was the toast, "Things  
we love, and otherwise," by Miss Ada  
Stapleton, which was heartily enjoyed.

The exercises in the chapel began  
in the strictly parliamentary manner  
with which the class conducts its  
meetings—with the president, Miss  
Abbie Macgruder in the chair, and  
Miss Marion Shelton as secretary.  
At roll call, each member announced  
her prospects in the matrimonial  
market, by answering to her name,  
"guilty" or "innocent."

The class history by Miss Grace  
Lewis, and prophecy by Miss Nelly  
Mendham, were heartily received, and  
after Miss Shelton's tender farewell to  
the chapel and faculty, all adjourned  
to the campus for the conclusion of  
the day's program.

A pretty picture indeed did these  
girls make, as with measured step,  
bearing a chain of green, woven with  
white syllaba, they marched to the  
staff upon which the Senior flag was  
raised and about which the Senior  
Ode was sung.

every hand.

The "Art Rooms," at Central are  
well lighted, and in a position to give  
a splendid view of the scenery along  
the Missouri's banks. It has been  
said, "One look from the studio  
windows is enough to fill the soul of  
the artist, and cause her to fly to  
palette and brush, determined to  
reproduce such grandeur on canvas."

Former visits to this department of  
college work, had warranted the  
belief that a very attractive collection  
of work would be shown, one in  
which taste, patience and skill would  
be manifest. Hopes were not only  
realized, but all were more than  
satisfied,—what more can be said?

Dainty souvenirs were given, a  
miniature palette, bearing the names  
of the graduates in art,—Misses  
Nadine Steele, Lottie Hines, and  
Marguerite Bates. The specimens of  
work presented by these seniors  
would be a credit to any artist, to  
any art institution, and the seal of  
approval which the college places  
upon their labors—is indeed a testi-  
monial of true merit.

These young ladies have studied  
from life, almost entirely, and  
especially good work have they done.  
The violets, narcissus, jug, and old  
hat, studies from cast, portrait  
sketches, all are excellent, and from  
every side could be heard expression  
of highest appreciation and praise.  
A large collection of pyrography was  
on exhibition. Pleno benches,  
tabourettes, chairs, sofa pillows as  
an Indian head, and a tea table in  
red poppies gave evidence of skillful  
hands in this branch of decorative art.

Nothing excited more admiration  
than the studies in water colors,